

## Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WAHDC 3307

UNCLAS GENEVA 8671

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUB: MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR JOUNIEH SECTION OF LEBANESE RED CROSS

REF: A) SIEVERTS (D/HA) LETTER TO STEIN OCT 15; B) GENEVA 7762

1. DR. SPIRGI OF THE ICRC TELEPHONED MISSION NOVEMBER 1 FOLLOWING HIS ANALYSIS OF LIST OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT REQUESTED BY THE JOUNIEH SECTION OF THE LEBANESE RED CROSS CITED IN REF LETTER.

2. SPIRGI SAAID THE LIST IS "HIGHLY EXAGGERATED." MOST OF THE ITEMS ARE ON THE STANDARD LIST OF SUPPLIES PROVIDED BY SWEDEN AND DISTRIBUTED ACCORDINGLY TO THE NEEDS OF HOSPITALS IN LEBANON. AT THIS POINT IN TIME, ACCORDING TO SPIRGI, IT IS THE BELIEF OF ICRC THAT A CUTBACK CAN BE MADE ON SOME OF THE SUPPLIES BEING SENT TO THE COUNTRY.

3. REFERRING TO THE VACCINATION PROGRAM, SPIRGI SAID THAT WHO IS IN THE PROCESS OF GETTING THIS EFFORT UNDER WAY. HE NOTED THAT THE ONE MILLION PEOPLE WHICH THE JOUNIEH LETTER SAYS WILL RECEIVE VACCINATIONS IS AN OVERSTATEMENT.

4. THE BLOOD TRANSFUSION ITEM IS AN HONEST REFLECTION OF NEED. SPIRGI SAID THAT ICRC PLANS TO LOOK INTO THIS ASPECT OF THE RELIEF PROGRAMS AND PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SUPPLIES.

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5. DR. SPIRGI COMMENTED THAT HE AND DR. SOLOMON ARE RECOMMENDING MORE COORDINATION BETWEEN AGENCIES AND COUNTRIES DONATING MEDICINES AND EQUIPMENT TO LEBANON TO AVOID THE KINDS OF EXCESSES CITED IN JOUNIEH LIST. HE FURTHER SUGGESTED THAT THE U.S. MAY WISH TO CONSIDER MAKING A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR AND WHO IN RESPONSE TO THE RECENT ICRC APPEAL FOR LEBANON IN LIEU OF SENDING THE SUPPLIES OUTLINED IN THE JOUNIEH LIST. (MISSION LATTER RECEIVED WORD OF AID'S DECISION TO CONTRIBUTE ONE MILLION DOLLARS IN RESPONSE TO UNHCR APPEAL FOR LEBANON.)

6. DR. SPIRGI HAS PROMISED TO PROVIDE WRITTEN COMMENTS ON THIS ISSUE WHICH THE MISSION WILL FORWARD TO THE DEPARTMENT. CATTO

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**To:** STATE  
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